

(19)



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(11)

EP 0 937 442 A2

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(43) Date of publication:

25.08.1999 Bulletin 1999/34

(51) Int Cl.⁶: **A61F 2/06**

(21) Application number: **99301281.4**

(22) Date of filing: **23.02.1999**

(84) Designated Contracting States:

**AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU
MC NL PT SE**

Designated Extension States:

AL LT LV MK RO SI

(30) Priority: **24.02.1998 US 28383**

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(54) **Bifurcated axially flexible stent**

(57) A stent with axial flexibility, in a preferred embodiment, has a longitudinal axis and comprises a plurality of longitudinally disposed bands, wherein each band defines a generally continuous wave along a line segment parallel to the longitudinal axis. A plurality of

links maintains the bands in a tubular structure. In a further embodiment of the invention, each longitudinally disposed band of the stent is connected, at a plurality of periodic locations, by a short circumferential link to an adjacent band. Further, a pair of bifurcated stents is disclosed.

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